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Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017 | High 14°C/Low 6°C Showers

KELLY OXFORD
Canadian social media star goes full awkward in personal essays
metroLIFE

Chief asks OPP to investigate Ottawa officers

2014 TRAINING ACCIDENT

At issue is whether police misled investigators

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa Police Chief Charles Bordeleau has asked the OPP to investigate claims that senior officers in the Ottawa Police Service provided misleading evidence in an investigation into three officers involved in a training accident in 2014.

Bordeleau confirmed in a statement late Monday that he had asked the OPP to look into the issue after receiving a letter from defence lawyer Michael Edelson, who represents one of the three officers.

The provincial Special Investigations Unit charged the three officers following an explosion at a training incident in 2014. Those charges were then stayed last September.

The SIU is a civilian agency that conducts criminal investigations into serious injuries involving police.

Officers were using an explosively charged device used to open doors in tactical situations, but the exercise led to a large fireball, injuring several officers

Metro has learned Edelson's letter suggests senior officers provided misleading information to the SIU investigation.

Bordeleau's statement does not get into specifics, but it says that he was aware of some of these concerns before Monday.

"Some of the allegations in the letter were already known to the OPS and I initiated chief's complaints after the staying by the Crown of the SIU criminal charges. Those chief's complaints have been under active investigation," the statement says.

Bordeleau's statement also says that he felt it prudent to bring the matter forward and have another review of the case.

> **Some of the allegations were already known.**
> Michael Edelson

"Based on new information in the documentation and in the interest of transparency, I have contacted Commissioner Vince Hawkes of OPP, earlier today, and asked that all aspects of this matter be investigated by his police service."

The letter also copies Attorney General and Minister of Community Safety Yasir Naqvi and Correctional Services Minister Marie-France Lalonde.

Bordeleau also informed the police services board, which has approved the outside investigation.

A woman smokes during a rally to celebrate National Marijuana Day on Parliament Hill in Ottawa in 2016.
GETTY IMAGES

THIS IS OTTAWA, NOT AMSTERDAM
Ottawa public health wants clearer regulations ahead of pot legalization — like where you can smoke metroNEWS

metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Trump's comments about Civil War, Andrew Jackson have historians scratching their heads. **World**

Along for the ride

Some 3,000 Ottawans are expected to participate in an annual campaign to encourage more people to commute to work via bike. Bike to Work month is an initiative by EnviroCentre and sponsored by the City of Ottawa. Here are six tips new cyclists need to consider

TAMAR HARRIS FOR METRO

EnviroCentre community outreach co-ordinator Jennifer Stelzer suggests cyclists ensure their bikes are equipped with a bell, lights and reflectors.
TAMAR HARRIS/FOR METRO

1 HELMETS

Helmets are available in different styles and different price points, but "at the core, they have the same purpose," said Right Bike's operational manager, Samuel Benoit. Helmets should be properly fitted to ensure safety, and are required for cyclists under age 18. The helmet should fit level and square on the head and have a snug fit.

2 CLOTHES

You can purchase cycling-specific clothing, but can bike in street or work clothes just as well. "I bike in the clothes that I wear for the day," said Jennifer Stelzer, community outreach co-ordinator at EnviroCentre. "No special clothing is required unless you're really biking for a workout. You can just change your pace to bike a little slower, so you don't get all sweaty."

3 BELL

The law requires your bike to have a bell. "It's actually really important when you're biking in the city, to let people know that you're going to pass them — it's just the nice thing to do," said Stelzer.

4 OVERALL CONDITION

A bike should be in good condition for your commute. Follow the rules of the road, and keep your bike maintained. Bike to Work month features free drop-in bike tune-ups at city hall and Lansdowne Park.

5 STORAGE

Panniers can be attached to a rack fixed to your bike for storage (a snug backpack can also be used). Stelzer said panniers are especially good for city biking because of their low centre of gravity. "I fit so much stuff in those panniers," said Stelzer. Along with work supplies, Stelzer said she has fit four bags of groceries in her panniers.

6 LIGHTS & REFLECTOR

Lights are required by law, and can be fixed to the front and back of your bike. Both battery-powered and LED lights are available. Reflectors "are always a good idea," said Stelzer, and bounce back lights from cars or any other light source.

Ottawa DIGEST

OTTAWA RIVER

Threat of more rain keeps trails closed

Pathways along the Ottawa River will remain closed for the time being, with more rain in the forecast threatening them again.

Cédric Pelletier, a spokesperson for the National Capital Commission, said while some drier weather last week helped the situation, the rain returned.

"We did do some cleaning this weekend but we had to stop the operations due to today's rain," he said.

Environment Canada issued a rainfall alert on Monday, as up to 35 millimetres was expected. Rain was also in the forecast for Tuesday and this coming weekend.

Pelletier said water levels will have to go down before the NCC can assess any damage to the trails.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

PARLIAMENT HILL

Celebratory flyover gets postponed

The flyover of Canadian Snowbirds and Patrouille de France jets has been postponed until at least Tuesday.

The planes were scheduled to fly past Parliament Hill at 10:45 a.m. Monday, but the flight was cancelled because of bad weather. A definite time for the flyover on Tuesday has not yet been scheduled, according to a statement from the Royal Canadian Air Force.

The flight comes after the Gatineau air show over the weekend, which celebrated Canada 150.

DREW MAY/FOR METRO

A man smokes marijuana at the iBake smoking lounge in Denver. If Ottawa Public Health gets its way, such establishments will have no place in the city. JOE MAHONEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Puzzling out all the practicalities of pot

LEGALIZATION

City's health authority looks to cigarettes for guidelines

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

You likely won't be able to smoke marijuana anywhere you can't smoke cigarettes today when pot becomes legal next year.

But that's just one of the challenges Ottawa Public Health (OPH) is working out.

The Liberal government's plan to legalize marijuana by July 2018 was released in April, and provinces are next to set up rules about how the drug can be sold.

After that, municipalities will set their own rules.

Gillian Connelly, manager of health promotion and disease prevention, said OPH would like to see use of marijuana restricted just like that of cigarettes. There's a bill in the Ontario legislature right now that would allow municipalities to include marijuana in anti-smoking bylaws.

Connelly said that, much like tobacco and alcohol, there are health risks to consuming marijuana. OPH will develop campaigns to stress that fact, she said.

> **"There are a lot of unknowns as a result of it having been illegal for so long.**
> Gillian Connelly

"We are definitely needing to inform people about what they're consuming and the health implications," she said. "It's not a benign substance."

Connelly said that in Colorado, where pot has already been legalized, there were problems with edible marijuana being sold in candy form.

"The ER doctors saw an increase in poisonings from children consuming edibles," she said.

She said the work won't end with legalization, and research on marijuana will be ongoing.

"There are a lot of unknowns as a result of it having been illegal for so long," she said. "There is a lot of research that needs to be done on many levels."

QUALITY OF LIFE

Transit tax credit to help seniors stay active

The Ontario government says its new transit tax credit for seniors is more about getting seniors out of their homes than boosting public transit.

The government announced a 15 per cent tax credit in its budget unveiled last week, which is similar to one the federal government just eliminated.

When the federal government announced the end of their credit, they said the measure wasn't boosting public-transit ridership as it had been designed to.

The new Ontario credit will only apply to seniors and will be refundable, which means more seniors will qualify for it because they don't need a minimum amount of taxable income.

Scott Blodgett, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Finance, said the credit is about helping seniors get out into their communities.

"The proposed Ontario Seniors Public Transit Tax Credit will help seniors remain active in their communities by taking advantage of new and existing transit projects across the province," he said in an email.

The government is promising more details about the credit before the July 1 implementation date.

The government estimates it will cost about $10 million annually and reach 65,000 seniors.

Blodgett said even though senior fares are usually already heavily discounted, the government wants to ensure money is not an obstacle.

"Ontario wants to ensure that seniors do not face unnecessary barriers to participating in their communities."

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

OTTAWA • ARNPRIOR

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CAMPAIGN

Mental Health Week and its goal

Tamar Harris
For Metro | Ottawa

Mayor Jim Watson proclaimed May 1 to 7 Ottawa's Mental Health Week on Monday. The annual awareness campaign is organized by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA).

"This (week) is about taking control of the things you can do in your life to make your life better, to make it less stressful, to make you more resilient," said Tim Simboli, executive director of CMHA's Ottawa branch.

The campaign's goal this year is to end wait times for mental health care. The Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre's highest average wait times are 206 days for the Mood and Anxiety outpatient program and 213 days for the sleep lab. The lowest wait time for outpatient programs is 15 days for the consult clinic.

Mental Health Week participants are raising awareness with a social media campaign called #GetLoud, which has reached 249,000 people on social media as of press time. The Ottawa Mission marked Mental Health Week by announcing enhanced mental health services for residents.

"People who come to The Ottawa Mission for help are already dealing with the stigma of being homeless," the Mission said in a statement. "It can be overwhelming for them to ask for help with mental health issues when they first arrive at the shelter."

Simboli said Mental Health Week is meant to create a dialogue. "People should pay as much attention to their mental health as they do to their physical health," said Simboli. "That means addressing problems early on before they turn into something more significant."

Diner serving up special Pageau meal all four you

FOOD

Breakfast is a tribute to Sens star's quadruple against Rangers

Drew May
For Metro | Ottawa

The Wellington Street Diner has introduced a new breakfast in honour of Ottawa Senator Jean-Gabriel Pageau's four goal game against the New York Rangers on Saturday.

The Pageau 4444 features four eggs, four sausages, four strips of bacon, four slices of ham, homefries, two slices of toast, and one slice of French toast. Price: $14.99.

> **Even if people don't want to order it in a month from now, it's still the Pageau breakfast. I think it has its own legs.** Diner owner Jeff Frost

Jeff Frost, who owns the diner, said that both the plate and the game are legendary.

"We're going to know this for 10 years, 20 years, that Pageau scored four goals and the game winner," he said. "I mean, he's living the dream right now."

Frost said the meal has been popular since the NHL tweeted about it. The Wellington Street Diner has other Ottawa Senators themed dishes, including the Chris Wideman 6 Shooter Hash and the Mike Hoffman Bardown Benny.

Frost said he would also like to do one for Dion Phaneuf in the future.

He said the Pageau 4444 will stay on the diner's menu permanently.

"Even if people don't want to order it in a month from now, it's still the Pageau breakfast. I think it has its own legs."

A meal fit for a goal-goal scorer, a truly mammoth feast. DREW MAY/FOR METRO

BUDGET

OSAP changes mean big boost for post-secondary students

Alex Abdelwahab
Metro | Ottawa

Last week's budget announced several new changes to the way the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) works, and reannounced several changes we already knew.

Among them, recent graduates can now wait until they make $35,000 a year to start paying back the provincial portion of their OSAP loan, up from $25,000 previously. Students graduating this year can take advantage of the change.

The province also announced it was changing how it calculates a student's income when determining the amount of OSAP they are eligible for: contributions towards a Registered Retirement Savings Program (RESP) and federal income received by Indigenous students under the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) are no longer counted towards income.

Also changed, mature students — someone out of high school for more than four years, whether single, married/common-law or a sole support parent — can now get the same OSAP benefits as younger students.

Gayle McFadden, a representative from the Canadian Federation of Students Ontario applauded the changes, but said they didn't go far enough. "There was no real address of the cost of education, of the fact that students pay the highest tuition fees in the entire country," she said.

Previously announced changes taking effect in September

210,000

Number of students the government has said will get free tuition in the province.

Many of the other changes, were previously announced, but will take effect in September.

Among them, the government is merging several tax credits and five OSAP grants into a single program called the Ontario Student Grant. It promises to provide enough grants to students from families making less than $50,000 to completely cover the cost of their tuition.

The government has said several times that these changes will allow more than 210,000 students in the province to get free tuition. However, questions about how this number was calculated were not answered Monday.

Students will now also receive all of their OSAP money when they ask for it, meaning they can pay off costs such as tuition at the beginning of the year, according to Tanya Blazina, spokesperson for the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

The maximum amount of aid that an eligible student can receive each week is also going up to $180/week in 2017-2018 for a single student (up from $160/week in 2016/17) and $450/week for students who are married or have children (up from $355/week in 2016-17).

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Some local urban foragers say edible plants are at risk from uninformed harvesters or people trying to make a profit. EMMA YARDLEY

Forage the sustainable way

NATURE

Not all edible plants there for the taking, experts say

Drew May
For Metro | Ottawa

Urban foraging, the practice of eating wild plants that grow in and around cities, is becoming more and more popular in Ottawa.

But some local urban foragers say edible plants are at risk from uninformed harvesters or people trying to make a profit.

"With spring coming social media fills up with all these posts about 'Oh, the ostrich ferns are ready and the wild leeks and coming,'" said Amber Westfall, an urban harvesting teacher. "There's that whole piece of ethics around harvesting wild plants that gets left out of the conversation."

She said that people who don't know what they're doing can hurt the plants and the ecosystems they grow in.

> There's that whole piece of ethics around harvesting wild plants that gets left out of the conversation. Amber Westfall

"Unscrupulous people who just have dollar signs in mind are going into woodland areas and trampling everything down and digging up big craters of wild leeks and having a really, really damaging effect," she said.

Sharon Boddy, an urban forager who said she learned from Westfall, said she thinks foraging has become more popular in cities because of the rise of cooking shows and local food movements.

"There's such a confluence of food issues that have been going on over the past 10 to 15 years," she said.

"People are much more into gardening, they're ripping out their front lawn in favour of perennials and rock gardens. These are all natural progressions."

She said she does most of her foraging in her own yard and in local parks in Ottawa's Westboro neighbourhood. She said as long as you know what the land has been used for and it isn't contaminated, foraging can be safe.

"If you do it correctly you can do it sustainably you can keep yourself reasonable well fed," Boddy said. "I certainly can't feed my entire grocery budget with foraging but I can certainly supplement it."

FUNDRAISING

Tories rake in more than Libs

The federal Conservatives showed off their fundraising prowess during the first three months of the year, raking in almost twice as much as the governing Liberals despite being in the midst of a leadership contest that could be siphoning off potential donations to the party.

When the leadership contestants' money haul is added in, the Conservatives raised more than three times the Liberal take.

According to financial returns filed with Elections Canada for the first quarter of 2017, the Conservative party pulled in $5.3 million from almost 42,500 donors, compared to just $2.8 million from 31,812 donors who gave to the Liberals.

Tory leadership contenders took in another $4.6 million, with front-runner Maxime Bernier raking in the most: $1.031 million, just barely ahead of celebrity candidate Kevin O'Leary, who pulled out of the race last week and threw his support to Bernier.

O'Leary raised $1.029 million. Kellie Leitch was a distant third with $536,418, followed by Erin O'Toole with $424,346, Andrew Scheer with $403,014 , Michael Chong with $283,978, Pierre Lemieux with $237,693, Lisa Raitt with $208,368 and Brad Trost with $120,893.

The other five contenders each pulled in less than $100,000.

The NDP continued to lag well behind the Conservatives and Liberals, raising just less than $909,000 from 13,404 donors.

New Democrat leadership contenders raised an additional $252,664. Of the four declared candidates so far, Charlie Angus led the pack with $110,765, followed by Niki Ashton with $65,521, Guy Caron with $57,235 and Peter Julian with $19,143.

Since winning power in 2015, the Liberals have been giving Conservatives, long the undisputed fundraising champions, a run for their money.

They've virtually matched or slightly exceeded the Tory donations in most quarterly fundraising reports.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PARTNERSHIPS

More than 500 attend provincial 'community hub' summit

Alex Abdelwahab
Metro | Ottawa

Hundreds of people braved the pouring rain in Toronto Monday to discuss creating more 'community hubs' in the province.

The idea, which has gained popularity in recent years, is to create spaces that combine multiple community services in a single location.

"One of the things we know is that people will only travel a certain distance to get services. If we can bring those services under one roof, then it's one trip, as opposed to several," said Cameron MacLeod, the executive director of the Carlington Community Health Centre (CCHC) in Ottawa.

The CCHC partnered with Ottawa Community Housing in 2015 to build a Community Hub providing 42 affordable housing units with integrated health and social supports for seniors at 900 Merivale Rd.

MacLeod said it was valuable to have so many different organizations represented in the same room.

"Every room is packed. There's presentations from folks that are doing hubs around education, hubs around youth services, hubs related to health and long-term care," he said.

"I hope that people will learn from the adventures of everyone else and that we're actually smoothing the path towards more of these things being created."

Last week, the province reiterated its commitment to building more community hubs in its 2017 budget.

The budget named this summit as one of the key ways it plans to do that.

The province has also launched a new website – communityhubontario.ca.

Why experts fear another Fort Mac

FORT MAC: ONE YEAR LATER

Governments urged to do more to prevent disasters

Experts warn it is only a matter of time before another community in Canada is ravaged by a sudden intense wildfire similar to the one that hit Fort McMurray.

And the insurance industry says governments aren't doing enough to prevent destructive blazes before they happen.

In recent years, other big wildfires have caused extensive damage in Kelowna, B.C., and Slave Lake, Alta., or seriously threatened communities, including La Ronge, Sask., and Timmins, Ont.

"These were not one-offs. It is not a fluke," says Mike Flannigan, a professor of wildland fire at the University of Alberta. "It is going to happen again."

Natural Resources Canada says climate change is expected to result in more frequent forest fires that have severe consequences. The area burned could double by the end of the century compared with recent decades.

Sylvie Gauthier with the Canadian Forest Service says a warming climate has already made forests in much of Canada drier than they used to be. Last spring was one of the driest in the Fort McMurray area in the last 100 years.

> **Awareness is critical and at this point it is exceptionally low.**
> Bill Adams

As temperatures increase, so will the risk.

"The expectation is it will grow in the coming years," Gauthier says. "For a large portion of the boreal forest the fire season is also projected to be longer."

Another factor is that more people — a major cause of wildfires along with lightning — are choosing to live, work and play in forested areas.

Governments already spend millions of dollars every year to respond to wildfires and help pay for damage.

But the Insurance Bureau of Canada says more must be done to prevent fires rather than dealing with the destruction afterwards.

Bill Adams, the bureau's vice-president, says governments are spending more on measures to mitigate the threat, but it isn't enough.

"Awareness is critical and at this point it is exceptionally low," he says. "Unless we have a much higher level of awareness around this risk — and prudent investments and action taken by federal and provincial governments and individual citizens — it is likely that we will have another major damaging fire."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kenny Cooley last year, and showing off his Sacred Clothing line. JEFF HARPER/METRO; CONTRIBUTED

CHARITY

Trans high school footballer gives back with 'hipster' Zeus

Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

After toying with shirt designs for years, Kenny Cooley's idea for Sacred Clothing hit him like a lightning bolt.

Cooley, a local high school student, gained international media attention last year for being the first trans player on his Halifax West football team, and recently put out a wish to meet Ellen DeGeneres for his birthday although that hasn't come through yet.

Now at Lockview High School, Cooley said his current co-op placement at a screen printing business, plus the months of support from Haligonians, inspired him to launch a clothing line where part of the proceeds go to a different local charity every month.

"I decided to do this as kind of a way to say thank you, and to give back — and also that's how I was brought up, you treat others the way you'd like to be treated," Cooley said on Monday.

Cooley said he came up with the idea of Zeus with a "hipster" spin a month ago.

"I'm half Greek, and that's where the name Sacred comes from as well," Cooley said about the image depicting the king of the gods, an ancient lightning-bolt-throwing devotional figure the Greeks thought worthy of sacrifices. The Sacred name plays off God as well, Cooley said, and since God "helps people" that's where he got the idea of giving back to charity.

REFUGEES

Guidelines for LGBTQ claims

A Nicaraguan man was refused asylum in Canada because he had not pursued gay relationships. A gay man from St. Kitts was denied because a refugee judge said cops in his home country could've protected him. A Ugandan lesbian refugee was denied because her story was ruled not credible.

Asylum claims based on sexual orientation are hard to verify and validate, as LGBTQ claimants are an invisible minority with no membership or specific physical appearance to prove their identity, presenting a huge challenge for decision-makers at the Immigration and Refugee Board.

That challenge has prompted the board to develop its first-ever guidelines on SOGIE — short for sexual orientation and gender identity and expression — to help decision-makers handle proceedings involving the LGBTQ population.

"Questioning an individual about their SOGIE can feel intrusive and may be difficult for the individual concerned. Questioning should be done in a sensitive, nonconfrontational manner. Open-ended questions should be employed where appropriate," advises the guidelines, released Monday.

"While an individual's experiences and behaviours related to their SOGIE may be expressed in both the private and public spheres, an individual's testimony may, in some cases, be the only evidence of their SOGIE."

Previously, proceedings involving sexual minorities were lumped into the general guidelines in handling what the board described as "vulnerable persons." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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$1 trillion to keep U.S. going

GOVERNMENT

Lawmakers endorse huge spending bill, avert shutdown

Erasing the threat of a disruptive government shutdown, the White House and top lawmakers endorsed a $1.1 trillion spending bill Monday to carry the nation through September, an agreement underscoring that Democrats retain considerable clout in Donald Trump's turbulent presidency.

Negotiators released the 1,665-page bill after Republicans dropped numerous demands on the environment, Obama-era financial regulations and abortion in marathon sessions over the weekend. The bill is slated for a House vote on Wednesday, with a Senate vote ahead of a Friday midnight deadline.

"We thought we had the upper hand because a government shutdown would be on their shoulders, and we made that clear," said Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said in an interview.

Trump and the White House made concessions last week when the president relented on his demand that the measure include a $1.4 billion down payment for his proposed wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

But he obtained $1.5 billion for border security measures including 5,000 additional detention beds and surveillance.

Democrats boasted of money for foreign assistance and cash-strapped Puerto Rico while winning funding for favoured programs like transit projects and grants for first responders. They also defied Trump on a bid to punish "sanctuary cities" and on immigration enforcement.

The White House declared victory anyway, citing billions of dollars more for the military.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer says the $1 trillion plan funding the government through September is a "good agreement for the American people." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HISTORY

Civil War could have been avoided: Trump

The U.S. president had a historical question: Why did America's Civil War happen? "Why could that one not have been worked out?"

Remarks by Donald Trump, aired Monday, showed presidential uncertainty about the origin and necessity of the Civil War, a defining event in U.S. history with slavery at its core.

Trump also declared that President Andrew Jackson had been president "a little later, you wouldn't have had the Civil War."

"He was really angry that he saw what was happening with regard to the Civil War. He said, 'There's no reason for this,'" Trump continued.

Jackson died in 1845. The Civil War began in 1861.

Trump, who has at times shown a shaky grasp of U.S. history, questioned why issues couldn't have been settled to prevent the war that followed the secession of 11 Southern states from the Union and brought death to more than 600,000 Americans, North and South.

The Civil War was decades in the making, stemming from disputes between the North and South about slavery.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marches and protests mark May Day

Workers and activists marked May Day around the world Monday with defiant rallies and marches for better pay and working conditions.

Police detained 70 people in Istanbul as they tried to march. Garment workers in Cambodia defied a government ban to demand higher wages, and businesses in Puerto Rico were boarded up as the U.S. territory braced for a huge strike over austerity measures.

In Paris, police fired tear gas and used clubs on rowdy protesters at a march that included calls to defeat far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Turkey — People holding flags run by a screen reading "Happy Mayday, labour and solidarity day, wishing for everybody a happy world" as they clash with Turkish police during a protest march towards Taksim Square to defy a ban as part of the May Day rally, in Istanbul
BULENT KILIC/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

2 Philippines — A father carries his daughter on his shoulders as they join protesters in marching towards the Presidential Palace to mark the global celebration of May Day in Manila, Philippines.
As in the past years, workers mark the day with calls for higher wages and an end to the so-called "Endo" or contractualization.
BULLIT MARQUEZ /THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 France — Demonstrators confront police on the annual May Day workers' march in Paris, France.
Police dealt with violent scenes in central Paris during the rally held close to the Place de la Bastille, where protesters shouted 'Fascists out!'
JEFF J MITCHELL/GETTY IMAGES

4 Venezuela — A demonstrator jumps over a tree trunk set by protesters as a barricade during an opposition May Day march in Caracas, Venezuela.
Venezuelans are taking to the streets in duelling anti- and pro-government May Day demonstrations as an intensifying protest movement enters its second month. ARIANA CUBILLOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Human rights group condemns Syria

New evidence indicates that the Syrian government used suspected nerve agents in four chemical weapons attacks since December as part of a broader pattern of chemical weapons use, a human rights group said Monday.

Human Rights Watch said in a report that the "widespread and systematic" attacks on civilians using chemical weapons could constitute crimes against humanity.

"The government's recent use of nerve agents is a deadly escalation — and part of a clear pattern," said Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch.

The rights group said the four attacks using suspected nerve agents all took place in areas where offensives by armed groups fighting the government — including the Islamic State extremist group — threatened military air bases.

In an April 4 attack in the opposition-held town of Khan Sheikhoun in Idlib province, Human Rights Watch said 92 people, including 30 children, were identified by residents and activists as victims of deadly exposure to the nerve agent sarin, which Britain and France identified by chemical analysis.

Medical personnel reported that hundreds more were injured, it said.

The Syrian government has repeatedly denied using chemical weapons and so has its close ally Russia, which has also carried out aerial attacks.

Human Rights Watch called on the UN Security Council to impose an arms embargo on Syria and sanctions on those in the military responsible for chemical attacks — and to refer Syria to the International Criminal Court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retailer sues flea market

COUNTERFEITERS

Louis Vuitton lawsuit could help in fake goods fight

A lawsuit filed by luxury fashion retailer Louis Vuitton against a Toronto flea market could potentially give brands a long-awaited hand in cracking down on counterfeiters, intellectual property lawyers said Monday.

If successful, the suit would allow companies to go after mall and flea market landlords whose vendors infringe on trademark rights — an added weapon in an ongoing and often frustrating battle against counterfeit goods, they said.

"A lot of brand owners would love to see the law in Canada expanded just because it gives us a tool to get assistance from flea markets in order to try and shut down this activity," said Karen MacDonald, a Vancouver lawyer who specializes in trademarks and patents.

"Otherwise it's death by 1,000 cuts for brand owners when you're dealing with flea markets and there's so many people who are selling them," she said. "It's a bit of a whack-a-mole game."

A lawsuit filed by luxury fashion retailer Louis Vuitton would allow companies to go after mall and flea market landlords whose vendors infringe on trademark rights. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MacDonald said the ability to hold landlords accountable for their vendors' activities is already established under U.S. law and Canada is seen as lagging behind.

The lawsuit filed last year alleges the owners and operators of Dr. Flea's Flea Market have knowingly or negligently allowed vendors at the facility to advertise, offer and sell counterfeit Louis Vuitton merchandise, which harms the brand.

> **It's death by 1,000 cuts for brand owners.**
> Karen MacDonald

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

Last month, an Ontario Superior Court judge ruled that details on various police raids on the market that targeted counterfeit products over several years should be allowed to remain part of the suit, overturning an earlier decision.

In its statement of claim, Louis Vuitton says police raided the flea market in 2008 and seized an unspecified amount of counterfeit merchandise.

It says that four years later, investigators seized roughly $1 million in counterfeit toys, clothes, accessories and other goods — including some Louis Vuitton knockoffs.

Another such raid took place in late 2015 and led to the seizure of a variety of counterfeit products, including fake Louis Vuitton items, the document says.

Should the case be successful, it would increase pressure on landlords to monitor their tenants, said Giuseppina D'Agostino, the founder and director of the intellectual property law program at York University's Osgoode Hall Law School.

Some may include clauses forbidding the sale of knockoffs in their contracts with vendors, a practice already adopted by some, D'Agostino said.

Those changes will be toothless without enforcement, however, she said. "You can have whatever contract written down, whatever law, whatever lawsuit, if it's not enforced, the problem proliferates," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business digest

Trump protectionism has EU looking to Canada

The protectionist approach of U.S. President Donald Trump means European companies are looking to "exploit" new opportunities in Canada, says Phil Hogan, the European Union's agriculture minister who is leading a trade mission of 60 mainly European food and drink companies to a major industry event Tuesday in Toronto.

That European business delegation stayed home while Hogan was in Washington last week for talks with U.S. officials, he said Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pembina plans friendly takeover of Veresen

Pembina Pipeline Corp. announced Monday a $9.7-billion friendly takeover offer for Veresen Inc. in the latest case of energy companies pushing for scale and diversification in uncertain times.

The Calgary-based companies said the deal would create one of the largest energy infrastructure firms in Canada. Both provide pipeline, storage and processing infrastructure.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PRAIRIES

Unharvested crops, wet spring causing headaches for farmers

When Humphrey Banack looks out the window on his farm, he can't see some of the fields he depends on to put food on the table and pay his bills.

Water from rain and melting snow is soaking grain and oilseed crops that the farmer near Round Hill, Alta., couldn't harvest last fall due to bad weather.

And fields he did manage to harvest are too sodden to walk on, let alone seed, due to a cold and wet spring.

"I haven't seen this much water lying around in all of the years I have farmed," Banack said.

"We are looking at another two to three weeks before we can plant any crops or deal with the old crops."

Removing and disposing of last year's unharvested grains will be a challenge across much of the Prairies for many farmers who are eager to start spring seeding.

Alberta's Agriculture Financial Services Corp. says there are about 400,000 hectares of insured unharvested crops left over from last fall. A similar amount of uninsured crops remain in fields.

Prairie farmer **Humphrey Banack** surveys his flooded pea field in Round Hill, Alta., on Saturday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Farmers want officials to move quickly to assess and process crop insurance claims.

Any delay in seeding will push the growing season back, which could put new crops in jeopardy of frost damage this fall.

Some of the old crop may be salvageable. But for the portion that has to be written off, farmers hope governments will be flexible on how it can be disposed of.

Banack said some can be chopped up with harvesters, but burning it makes the most sense. Fields are too muddy to plow the material back into the ground.

Todd Lewis, president of the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan, said some farmers in his province face the same challenge.

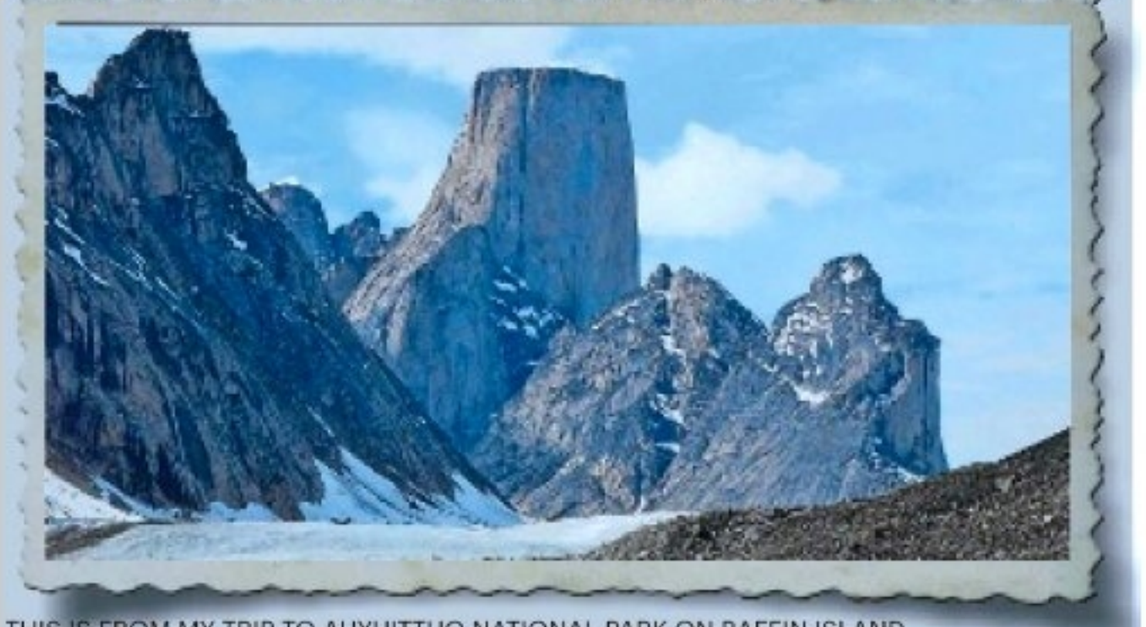
Manitoba estimates about 40,000 hectares were not harvested last fall, mainly in the southwest. Parts of the province will be able to begin seeding soon, but some farmers are reporting the wettest spring they have seen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

150 WAYS of looking at Canada

POSTCARD NO. 91

AUYUITUG NATIONAL PARK, BAFFIN ISLAND



THIS IS FROM MY TRIP TO AUYUITTUQ NATIONAL PARK ON BAFFIN ISLAND IN JULY 2010. IT IS VERY REMOTE AND FEW PEOPLE VISIT THERE TO SEE THE SPECTACULAR SCENERY AND LOTS OF PRETTY FLOWERS IN THE ARCTIC TUNDRA. YOU HAVE TO BE IN PHYSICAL SHAPE WITH LONG-DISTANCE HIKE WITH HEAVY LOAD ON THE PACK, SEVERAL RIVER CROSSING IN ICY COLD WATER AND THE UNPREDICTABLE WEATHER. **JAMES HASTON**

SEND US YOUR POSTCARD

Each day until July 1, Metro will feature one reader's postcard in our editions across the country, on Metronews.ca and our 150postcards Instagram page. Get involved by sending us a photo of your favourite place in Canada along with 25 to 50 words about why that place is special to you. Email us at **scene@metronews.ca** or post to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag **#150postcards**.

metro CITIES
Your essential urban intelligence

PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

BLUEPRINT by Sarah-Joyce Battersby/Metro

Solving cities' No. 1 problem

Some of the world's loveliest cities are awash in unwanted ornamentation from public urinators. From rapidly developing urban centres to old cobblestone streets, when this basic human need is overlooked the results can be unsightly and dangerous. Though providing more access to public washrooms seems like the most obvious solution, **here are creative ways cities are taking control of our uncontrollable urges.**

Urinal Planter

To combat what Parisians call "les pipis sauvages" or "wild peeing," an industrial design firm created a combination urinal/planter. It mixes collected pee with hay, which then marinates for a year in the countryside. After it breaks down into compost, it returns to town to fertilize the parks and flower beds of the City of Light.

Outdoor Urinal

Despite $500 fines, the public (and their dogs) pee all over San Francisco. A street lamp was targeted so many times the base corroded and the pole toppled, almost hitting a driver. Now the city has constructed 27 public washrooms, including an open-air urinal in the famed Delores Park, which led to its own problems and complaints.

Urine Repelling Paint

San Francisco is also one of a handful of cities to deploy special paint that repels the stream back onto the source. The California city coated 30 walls with the substance, originally created to waterproof the likes of motors and machinery. In Hamburg's St. Pauli district, the treated walls included signs declaring "We pee back!"

Urine Powered Speakers

A Rio de Janeiro NGO harnessed pee to keep beats pumping, and the streets clean, during Carnival. Working like a hydro dam, urinals used the force of the stream to charge speaker batteries. A more high-tech urine-powered battery is under development with Gates Foundation funding. A version debuted at the 2015 Glastonbury festival.

Shame

Chester, England was founded as a Roman fortress in the first century AD. Now the city is protecting itself from urine with a classically British tactic: shame. Rather than go to court and face fines, pee-petrators can choose to watch CCTV footage of their offending episode, take a heritage awareness course and a walking tour of the damage.

Most of the designs combat a traditionally-male style of public peeing, that is, standing up. The people behind the French planter/urinal are working on a version adapted for women. But, as in many areas, women are often overlooked when it comes to providing public washrooms of any kind.

WORD ON THE STREET by David Hains/Metro

Walk in Jane Jacob's footsteps for a new view on your town

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jane Jacobs was a journalist with no degree in planning or architecture. Yet she became arguably the most influential figure in city planning because she listened to people who knew the most about their neighbourhoods, in turn seeing cities in new ways.

This spirit informs Jane's Walks, the annual festival of strolls that coincides with her May 4 birthday. Locals lead walks, telling neighbours about something they're passionate about, from local heritage or transit planning to public art or pizza.

Jacobs, who died in 2006, was all about giving power back to local residents. She was firm in her belief that they were more in touch with the pulse of the community than city hall officials. Now she's something of a folk hero to city-loving people around the world (see: "What Would Jane Do?" buttons and T-shirts).

One thing Jane would do is explore. She would hear new ideas, and imagine all the possibilities that cities hold. She would go for a walk.

OTTAWA | Jane's Walk picks

Lindenlea: An Original Garden City: One of Canada's first planned communities, explore architecture and principles that went into the neighbourhood built in the aftermath of WWI. Saturday at 9:30 a.m., Lindenlea Park.
Elgin Street Redesign: It has seen a lot of retail turnover in recent months, and now Elgin is undergoing a city-led redesign. Understand what that will look like and what it means for pedestrians and local businesses. Saturday at 11 a.m., St. Luke's Park.
Little Free Libraries: There's no way that you can't love the quaint little free libraries throughout Ottawa. Visit these bookish outposts in the Glebe, and learn how to participate in the little free library movement for yourself. Sunday at 12:30 p.m., 237 Fifth Ave.

Find more at janeswalk.org/canada

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PUBLIC WORKS
The week in urbanism

PARK YOUR KEISTER
After a successful trial run in 2016, Hamilton, Ont., has made its pop-up patio program permanent. With a permit, restaurants and pubs can turn parking spots into patios, a plan that 97 per cent of patrons supported.

FIRST LADY OF DESIGN
Michelle Obama is urging architects to look beyond downtowns and work in city fringes, building neighbourhoods for "a family or a child that feels like no one cares." She made the remarks to the American Institute of Architects, her first speech since leaving the White House.

CITY CHAMP Metro's citybuilder of the week

Don Grant is a cycling advocate and consultant who promotes sustainability. Based in Ottawa, he tweets about how to improve bike infrastructure and fight climate change. **@Dongrant18**

URBAN DICTIONARY

DEFINITION
A **stroad** combines the features of a street, which encourages strolling to shops and homes, with the wideness of a road, which encourages high speeds.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
Nahla should abandon her futon on the side of the **stroad** — their shared lack of focus makes them equally useless.

metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

A $100-million lawsuit has been filed against organizers of the disastrous Fyre music festival

Is 13 Reasons Why just a TV show?

Genna Buck
Metro Canada

A 17-year-old girl climbs into a full bathtub with a razor. We see her slice into her skin, we see the blood pour out, hear her cry and struggle to breathe. Then she is still.

The suicide of the heroine in Netflix's new popular series 13 Reasons Why is set up from the outset of the series.

So it's not a surprise. But it is a shock. And it has triggered criticism that it romanticizes suicide.

Netflix responded Monday by adding more warnings for viewers about graphic content, but the show's creators are unapologetic, saying their depiction is "unflinching and raw."

"Many people are accusing the show of glamorizing suicide and I feel strongly that we did the exact opposite," said writer Brian Yorkey. "What we did was portray suicide and we portrayed it as very ugly and very damaging."

The 13-episode drama, co-produced by actress and singer Selena Gomez, is based on Jay Asher's 2007 young-adult bestseller about a high school student who kills herself and leaves behind 13 audiotapes detailing the events that led to her death, including sexual assault, substance abuse and bullying.

Per usual, Netflix released all 13 hours of the series at once, on March 31, leaving suicide prevention specialists worried teens might binge the entire series without a chance to fully absorb the issues and ask questions.

"Graphic details about suicide we know historically are not recommended," said Phyllis Alongi, the clinical director of The Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide. "I understand what the producers are saying but it could really be unsafe and I think we need to be a little more responsible."

Netflix and the show creators point out that several mental health professionals were consulted and they offer a 30-minute show called Beyond the Reasons that delves deeper into the tougher topics portrayed.

But some are going further, with the National Association of School Psychologists declaring, "We do not recommend that vulnerable youth, especially those who have any degree of suicidal ideation, watch this series."

The Ontario Ministry of Education has even issued a statement cautioning school boards not to use it as a teaching tool.

But what about the reactions of actual teens? They're binge-watchng the program in droves. We asked four girls for their feelings on the controversial work.

WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Director Helen Shaver coaches actress Michele Ang in a scene from 13 Reasons Why. Netflix and the show creators point out that several mental health professionals were consulted in the making of the show, but critics say vulnerable youth should not watch it. CONTRIBUTED

METRO ASKS TEENS: WHAT WAS YOUR REACTION TO 13 REASONS WHY?

GENNA BUCK METRO

My friends and I have been talking about the main character, Hannah, in the sense of feeling for her and the things she went through: The fights with other girls, the way guys treat girls and talk about them, the teachers not wanting to talk because they're uncomfortable. (Teen suicide) has happened in our area, and it's not talked about until after. I don't think it shows suicide as vindicating. Hannah's story is over and her life is over.
RILEY SMIRL, 16, GRADE 11, CO-HOST OF TEEN PODCAST STILL BUFFERING

For people suffering from anything the main character is struggling with, it presents suicide as a viable option. A lot of people who are suicidal have a fantasy of, 'People will finally understand if I kill myself.' The show validates that. There's a depiction of sexual assault that's really upsetting. I found the (creator's) defence of it really troubling. He said, 'People need to see how ugly it is.' I don't think people need to see it to have compassion and understand the severity.
GABI KENNIFIC, 18, GRADE 12

The show's portrayal of rape culture brings so much awareness. I have actually seen a reduction in people at my school saying 'She's a slut, a whore, a skank.' To see (these issues) in a form of media that we interact with and we enjoy is really powerful. I think the arguments that it shows suicide as logical are too generalizing. They don't take into account the specific characters. It could be triggering for some, but all sorts of media could provoke that reaction.
LAUREN MARRON, 15, GRADE 9

The events that happened throughout the show were realistic. People really do talk behind your back and spread rumours, and they're mean in their cliques. It wasn't really graphic until episode nine, but if someone has mental health issues, it would be hard to watch for them. I might suggest they didn't. But it wasn't glamorizing suicide. If anything, it was telling people if you're ever feeling that down or low, that you should get help. SHANNON VANDERKOOI, 15, GRADE 10

Conceptual artist Rashid Johnson features in Barry Avrich's art documentary Blurred Lines. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOT DOCS

Delving into art's 'mysterious world'

The contemporary art world can be an intimidating one, with its mysterious nature, sticker shock, and gallerists who are sometimes hesitant to offer a price list or even say hello to patrons.

"I used to walk into an art gallery and say, 'Oh, that's beautiful, how much is that?' 'Sold.' 'I didn't see a red dot,"' recalls Toronto filmmaker Barry Avrich.

"They just don't want me to have it ... because I'm not important to them as a collector. They can't say, 'That beautiful painting is in Barry Avrich's collection.'

"They're very careful in terms of who they're going to sell the art to."

Avrich explores such mysteries of the contemporary art world — with the aim of making it more accessible and understandable — with his new documentary, Blurred Lines.

The film, which is screening at Toronto's Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, interviews a host of power players in the industry, including renowned artists Julian Schnabel, Marina Abramovic and Canada's own Michael Snow.

"We cover the spectrum to try and show how this world fits together, because it's not obvious — and sometimes it's intentionally not obvious," says Jonas Prince, the film's producer, who is also a collector and a trustee of the Art Gallery of Ontario. "What is art has changed, what is the job of a gallerist is changing, the auction houses no longer earn their livelihood completely from the auction.... Collectors are now showing their art in their own buildings so they become their own museums."

The film starts in September 2008 with the collapse of financial services firm Lehman Brothers. Just 24 hours after the meltdown, works by British artist Damien Hirst sold for almost US$200 million at Sotheby's in London.

"That says something about art," said Avrich. "There's always going to be that group of people who are buying and collecting and selling. We don't know if the art world is completely recession-proof but for some, it certainly is, and that number is staggering."

As the film explores the commodification of contemporary art, it looks at how artists gain credibility, how the prices of works can skyrocket, and why collectors collect.

No artist wants their prices to go up, because what goes up sometimes can go down.
Jonas Prince

"You can go into a Ferrari dealership, put down your American Express Black Card to buy a Ferrari and they'll sell it to you," says Montreal-born Avrich, who has made several films on show-business moguls, including producer Harvey Weinstein and Penthouse founder Bob Guccione.

"If you go into an art gallery in New York and say, 'I want to buy a certain artist,' they won't sell it to you, most likely because they don't know who you are as a collector and that will impact on the price of the art if they're selling it to an unknown collector."

Many galleries also don't want someone buying their work who is going to "flip" it and put it up for auction the next day, notes Prince.

"They don't want the prices being subject to the vagaries of the market," he says. "There is this unregulated attempt to, in a quite appropriate way, manage the career of an artist."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Always open, Oxford connects with masses

INTERVIEW

Social media guru gets very personal in her second book

Megan Dolski
life@metronews.ca

Kelly Oxford's honesty and punchy take on the world around her is what made her famous.

The Alberta-raised, California-based social-media star has made her career by being both hilarious and relatable online.

Since making her Twitter profile in 2009, Oxford has amassed 768,000 followers and has another 159,000 on Instagram. She posts openly about awkward moments, politics and her passionate love for McDonald's Filet-O-Fish sandwiches.

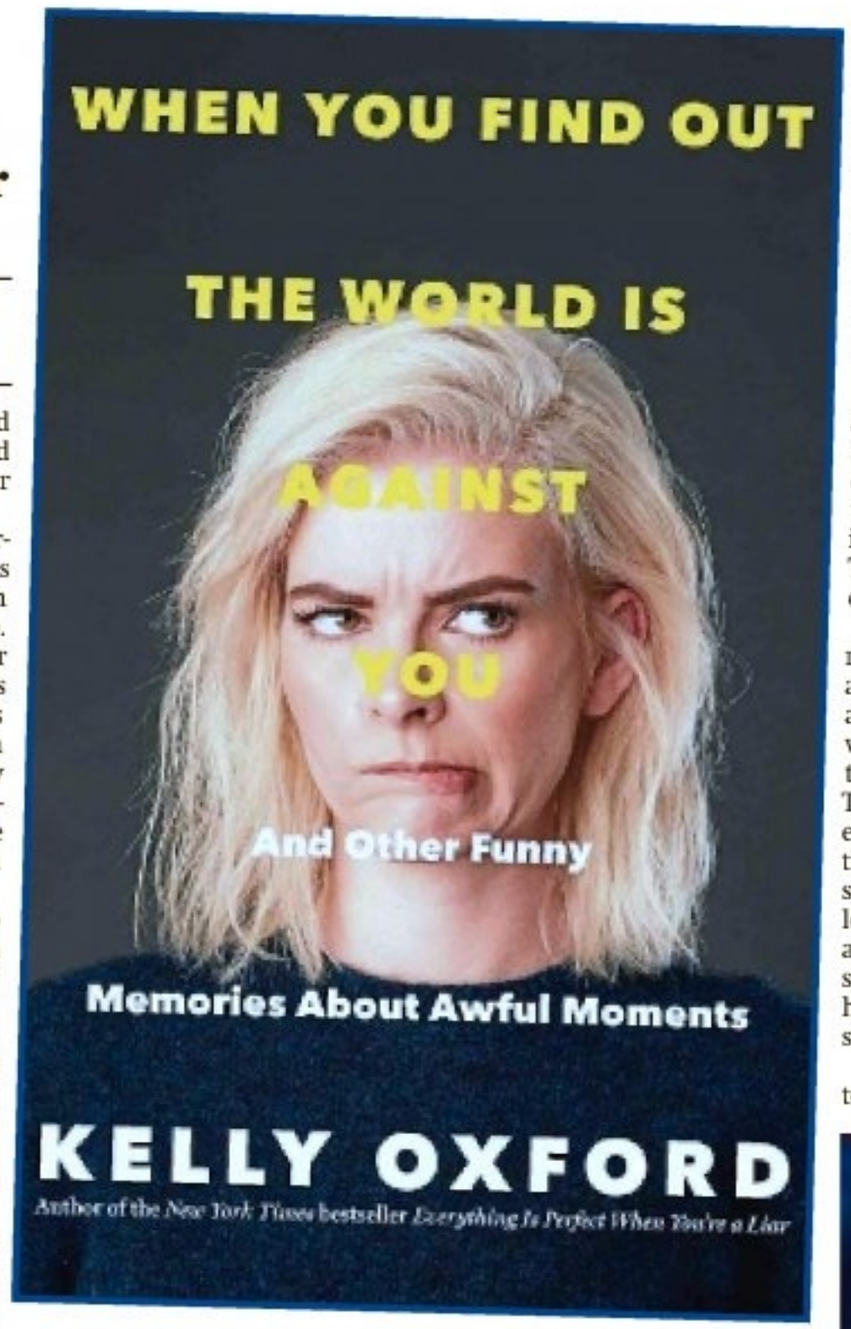
The 39-year-old writer, who made headlines last fall when she started the #NotOkay hashtag that led to an outpouring of first-person stories about sexual assault, gets personal in her second book, When You Find Out the World is Against You — and Other Funny Memories About Awful Moments (Harper Collins).

The stories range from her recollection of the night she started #Notokay, to recovering from a poorly-executed D.I.Y. perm at summer camp in Alberta, to the moment she made the connection between anxiety and armpit pain.

"I mostly write for me," said Oxford. "The stories were times where I was provoked by anxiety, times where I was stressed out, and the stories that I remembered the best or that I thought taught me the best lessons."

Dedicated to two of her dearest loves, McDonald's and Oprah, Oxford's second book features 11 anxiety-driven personal essays that leapfrog through different phases of her life, from memories of her childhood and teenage years in Canada to her modern-day life as a high-profile mother of three in the U.S. — sometimes linking the two.

Writing about her younger self came easy, Oxford said, adding she's been told she's a naturally youthful person. When it comes down to it, she says, people don't really change that much as they get older.


WHEN YOU FIND OUT
THE WORLD IS
AGAINST
YOU
And Other Funny
Memories About Awful Moments
KELLY OXFORD
Author of the New York Times bestseller Everything Is Perfect When You're a Liar

The stories were times where I was provoked by anxiety, times where I was stressed out, and the stories that I thought taught me the best lessons.
Kelly Oxford

"I think that stories from your childhood are all fair game when you're dealing with telling stories of a character. I think your psyche is pretty much well-rounded when you are little."

She gives the example of her fear of earthquakes. In the book, she recounts a quest to figure out what her family's plan would be if a massive earthquake suddenly rumbled through Los Angeles.

The roots of that fear, she says, stem from a terrifying childhood experience when she found herself outside in a field during a tornado.

Oxford says she opens up more in print than she ever would feel comfortable doing online.

Still, she has her limits. "I know what lines can't be crossed personally for me and for my kids and the people in my life, so I just try to keep it entertaining, I suppose."

But not everything in the book is lighthearted.

The last essay in the collection, "#NotOkay: The Day My Outrage Went Viral" is relatable like the others, but the memories recalled in this one aren't laughable with hindsight. Oxford gives a first-person account behind the hashtag she started in October 2016 following a leaked video of then-candidate, now-U. S. President Donald Trump talking with former Access Hollywood personality Billy Bush about women, saying that fame allowed him to "grab them by the p—."

At the time, Oxford reacted quickly by tweeting to her hundreds of thousands of followers about the first time she was assaulted, asking others to do the same. Then, pretty quickly, millions of women did.

In her book, Oxford takes readers back to several separate instances when she was assaulted, and shares what was going through her head the first time she watched the Trump video. She writes longer, more detailed accounts of the assaults she had previously summarized and tweeted in less than 140 characters. She also includes some of the responses from women who took her lead and shared their own stories.

That last chapter was written after the book was finished.

GETTY IMAGES

Following the outpouring of response on social media, she asked her editors if she could add it in. "When (hashtag) happened, I thought, 'Oh my God, this fits in so well with everything in the book.'"

The massive and powerful response from that original tweet, her loyal social-media following and this latest collection of shared moments all show Oxford's ability to make connections with people by opening up about her life.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sas Long (above right) loads a truck at Floralora Flowers farm in Prince Edward County, Ont. Long is part of the "slow flowers" movement, with a focus on locally-grown flowers like these double headed white tulips at the Toronto Flower Market (right). TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Slow flower trend begins to bloom

FLORISTRY

Move towards more natural, local looks is growing fast

Jonathan Forani
life@metronews.ca

With vibrant buttercups and snapdragons bunched together with mint, pampas grass and branches poking through, Jennifer Fowlow's bouquets look like they were picked fresh off farmland.

And they were. The "slow flower" movement — a surge in homegrown flowers over imported grocery store bouquets — is the new aesthetic blooming in the floral business. This local, natural trend is leading florists to use what's in season in their bouquets — be that vines, bean stalks or roadside weeds.

Scroll through Instagram and you'll find thousands of messy, haggard and beautiful arrangements under the #slowflowers hashtag. You will also witness the breadth of the movement's creativity.

At Wild North Flowers in downtown Toronto, Fowlow and the team use all types of greenery with vibrant staples such as Peruvian lilies and Lisianthus flowers. She'll trim branches, gather herbs such as mint, and cut weeds from the alley behind her house or pulled from the side of a highway to give arrangements a natural look.

"Each flower tells you where it wants to go. You pick up each stem, the lines the way it's curved, and make the decision one by one where to go," says Fowlow, who opened Wild North last spring. Fowlow's studio works with 100 per cent local flowers bought from growers across southern Ontario from Dundas to Prince Edward County. "We're not manipulating the flowers to create some unnatural shape."

Traditional arrangements were designed tightly and vertically, emphasizing the bulbous shapes of classic flowers. But the trend in today's flower design is toward arrangements that flop sideways in uneven bunches, flowers that look like they would in the wild.

"There seems to be a step back towards appreciating things in their natural state," says Sas Long, owner of Floralora Flowers, a 2.6-hectare Prince Edward County flower farm. She has started to grow bean stalks, cherry tomatoes and egg plants on the farm along with many flowers that are difficult to get imported such as bearded irises and pincushion flowers, all of which she'll sell to florists around Ontario for use in "slow flower" bouquets.

"I think aesthetically it's a much more pleasing look than the traditional bouquets and arrangements than people had been making in the past," she says over the phone while birds chirp in the background. "People have access to way more varieties of flowers now than just getting what are imported."

The aesthetic trend goes hand in hand with what has been coined stateside as the "slow flower" movement by Seattle-based writer Debra Prinzing.

"The floral design community has been so innovative in just working with what's available," says Prinzing, who named the movement in her 2013 book Slow Flowers after the similar "slow food" culinary surge of the last decade. In the States, only about 20 per cent of flowers sold are grown domestically, says Prinzing. With the "slow flower" movement, that number is improving, and floral aesthetics too are evolving "like a fashion trend."

"(Going local) means your palette of colours is going to be quieter in the winter months, especially in Toronto," she says, though that doesn't mean customer demand has changed entirely. "There's always going to be that bride who wants white hydrangeas in January."

The movement has taken hold globally. Prinzing has heard from florists and growers in Italy, France, the U.K. and Australia who are adopting slow flower practices.

"This idea of sourcing your flowers locally is spreading across a lot of countries that have been affected by outsourcing agriculture," she says.

"Florists are figuring out there's a better way to beautiful."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

The point where grief can tip into madness

Lindsay Duncan plays Grace who confesses to killing a man. CONTRIBUTED

THE SHOW: The Leftovers, Season 3, Episode 3 (HBO)
THE MOMENT: Grace's story

In a delicate, seven-minute scene, Grace (Lindsay Duncan), a preacher's widow living alone in the Australian outback, explains to Kevin Garvey Sr. (Scott Glenn) why she killed a man.

Grace's five children disappeared seven years ago, in The Great Departure (a portion of humanity suddenly vanished). She thought they'd ascended to heaven.

Then their remains were discovered, far out on the flats. "I'd never considered searching for them," she says, shattered.

When she found Garvey in the same spot, near death from a snake bite, he was clutching a notebook page. It described how his police chief son, also named Kevin, had drowned and risen again.

Grace knew a police chief named Kevin. She kidnapped and drowned him. "I thought he was testing me," she says. "Once I'd proved my faith, he would let me talk to my children one last time."

"But you're not an angel," she tells Garvey. "And God doesn't care about me. It's just a stupid story." Her voice drops. "I've gone a bit crazy, haven't I?

"No," Garvey says. "You've just got the wrong Kevin."

Between this and the TV adaptation of the The Handmaid's Tale, it's a good week for apocalypse stories. In both, humankind reacts in rich, specific ways to a mysterious global catastrophe. What they're showing us, of course, is how breakable the veneer of civilization is.

The Leftovers is freer and loopier about it — this final season is often quite funny. But its greatness lies in how it zeroes in on one aspect of that veneer: how easily grief can tip into madness.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

"The first 10 minutes of that game is really important": Senators forward Derick Brassard, who will play in his former home rink in Game 3

A long journey to the top

2017 NHL PLAYOFFS
OTTAWA LEADS SERIES 2-0

Anderson among league's best after rocky start to career

If first impressions stuck, Craig Anderson wouldn't be here helping the Ottawa Senators threaten a trip to the Eastern Conference final.

From an embarrassing losing streak at the start of his NHL career to a merry-go-round through waivers to tending goal for some of the league's worst teams, Anderson had to work his way up from the bottom to reach this stage and join Henrik Lundqvist as one of the game's elite.

"We know how good he is," said Senators teammate Mark Stone, "but I think some people don't."

Anderson thinks that's because of a painful first impression which saw him lose the first 13 decisions of his NHL career, and 17 of 18 overall, as a member of his hometown Blackhawks. Drafted in the third round by the Blackhawks in 2001, Anderson made his NHL debut on Nov. 30, 2002 and didn't earn a first win until Jan. 22, 2004.

"It's tough for a goalie to get any credibility when you're on a bad team and losing all the time," Anderson said in a recent interview with The Canadian Press.

Anderson chased starts for three seasons in Chicago before he was finally placed on waivers in January of 2006. Within a crazy span of two weeks and a day, Anderson bounced across waivers — from Boston to St. Louis, and back to Chicago. He was dealt to Florida that summer.

> **When you start your career out 0-14-5 or whatever it's pretty tough to dig yourself out of it.**
> Craig Anderson

"Goaltending is timing," said Anderson, who helped the Senators take a 2-0 series lead on New York with 43 saves in Game 2 on Saturday. "With a skater, there's 18 skaters at any given time so there's a lot more opportunity for a younger guy to get in. With one goalie playing — if it's a starter who's 30 years old who's going to play 65, 70 games — your opportunity is just not there."

He credits the turnaround to the shift in outlook he gleaned from Tim Thomas, a teammate during his brief time with the Bruins. Thomas was then an unknown 31-year-old former Quebec Nordiques draft pick who'd gotten only a sniff of the NHL amid stints in Europe and the minors.

Anderson saw someone who loved the game no less.

"It really put my career in perspective," said the now-35-year-old, a Masterton trophy nominee this season for his inspired performance (.926 save percentage) during wife Nicholle's battle with cancer.

Anderson ditched a negative outlook and opted to approach life more optimistically — just as Thomas apparently did. His fellow American netminder eventually won two Vezinas, a Conn Smythe Trophy and a Stanley Cup.

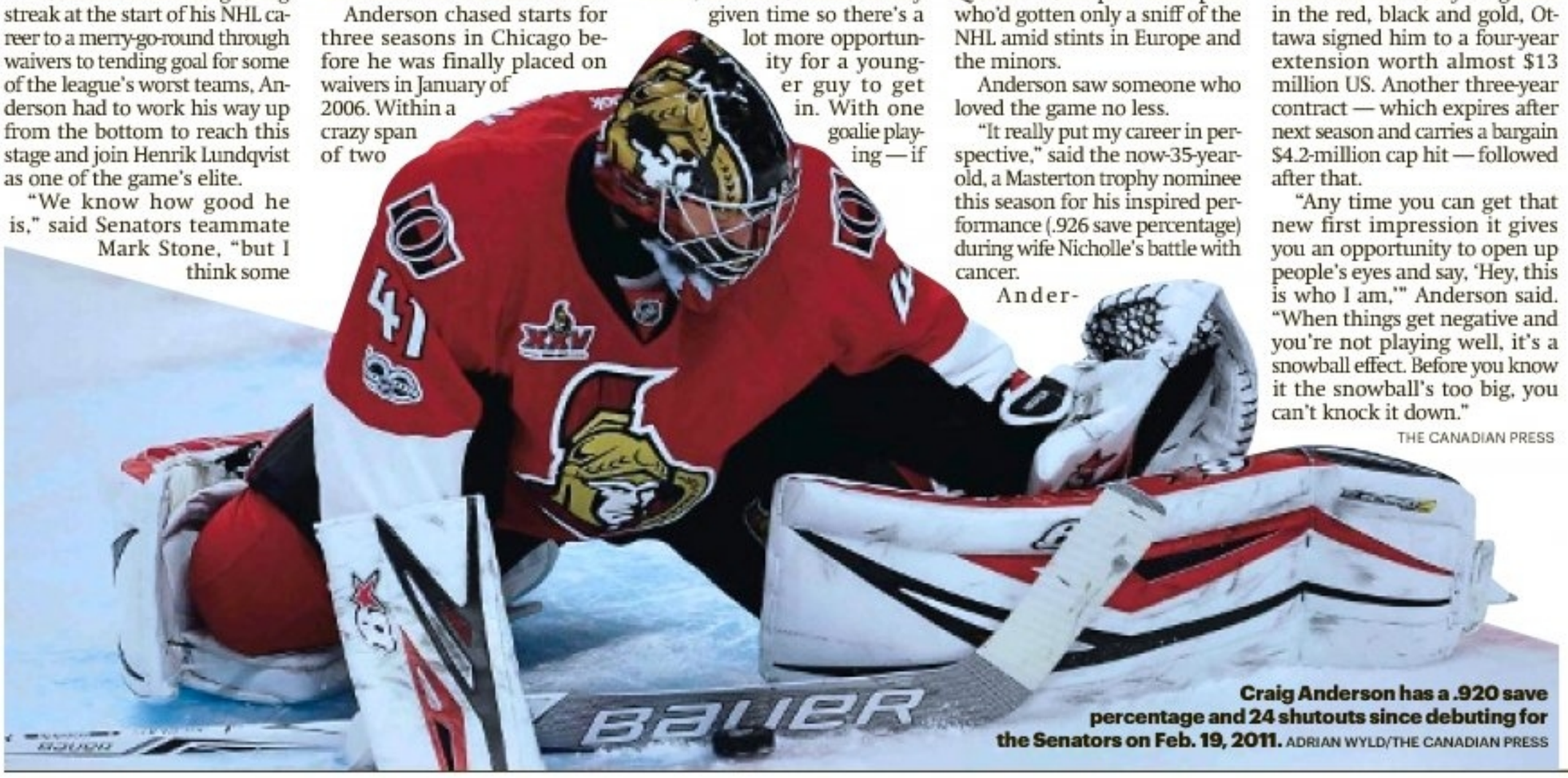
After two seasons with the woeful Avalanche Anderson was finally dealt to Ottawa for another goalie in Brian Elliott who hadn't yet found his way.

Anderson's first impression with the Senators? A 47-save shutout of the Maple Leafs.

Things "just snowballed" from there and after only 11 games in the red, black and gold, Ottawa signed him to a four-year extension worth almost $13 million US. Another three-year contract — which expires after next season and carries a bargain $4.2-million cap hit — followed after that.

"Any time you can get that new first impression it gives you an opportunity to open up people's eyes and say, 'Hey, this is who I am,'" Anderson said. "When things get negative and you're not playing well, it's a snowball effect. Before you know it the snowball's too big, you can't knock it down."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Craig Anderson has a .920 save percentage and 24 shutouts since debuting for the Senators on Feb. 19, 2011. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'We know we got away with one'

Dion Phaneuf stared hard at his questioner for the briefest of moments before speaking slowly and emphatically. The veteran Ottawa defenceman wanted to be clear that he knows the Senators are fortunate to be in New York up two games on the Rangers.

"We like the position that we're in but we also know we got lucky with the outcome of the last game," Phaneuf said following the Senators' practice at Madison Square Garden Monday in preparation for Tuesday night's Game 3 of their Eastern Conference semifinal.

Dion Phaneuf
GETTY IMAGES

"We got outplayed. They played a better all-around game than (we did). We know we got away with one."

The Senators were outshot 48-34 in their 6-5 double-overtime victory in Game 2.

For a team whose foundation is based in strong structure in the neutral and defensive zones, what transpired at Canadian Tire Centre Saturday afternoon was disconcerting.

"We were going all out trying to score a goal and that doesn't suit us at all," Senators head coach Guy Boucher said.

"I think we know now that (the Rangers are) a great team with great speed, great depth and really well-coached. So we're expecting the best that we've seen in the playoffs from any other team." THE CANADIAN PRESS

PGA TOUR

Smith, Blixt win team tournament

The team of Cameron Smith and Jonas Blixt won the Zurich Classic on the fourth playoff hole Monday, capturing a new-format tournament that had been held over a day because of darkness.

Smith hit a 58-yard approach shot within 3-1/2 couple feet of the pin, and the Aussie sank a birdie putt on the par-5 18th hole to give himself and his Swedish teammate the victory. Smith and Blixt could have won on earlier playoff holes but missed short birdie putts.

> **It was pretty cool to knock the putt in for the win.**
> Cameron Smith on clinching his first PGA Tour victory

For the 23-year-old Smith, this was his first PGA Tour victory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BASEBALL IN BRIEF

Tebow collects his first triple in three-hit game

Tim Tebow had his best pro baseball game last week, going 3-for-4 with his first-ever triple with the Columbia Fireflies, the New York Mets Class A affiliate.

The former NFL quarterback who won the Heisman Trophy also scored two runs scored in the Fireflies' victory over the Asheville Tourists last Wednesday. Columbia went 2-1 against Asheville and 1-3 against the Hickory Crawdads. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Torn lat muscle pushes Syndergaard to DL

The New York Mets placed ace right-hander Noah Syndergaard on the 10-day disabled list on Monday after a MRI revealed a partial tear of his right lat muscle.

The Mets said there is no timetable for Syndergaard's return.

Syndergaard left his start Sunday against Washington in pain, a development that came only a couple days after he said he felt fine and refused an MRI.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Bird steps down as Pacers president

Larry Bird made it official Monday, resigning as the Indiana Pacers' president of basketball operations and saying simply that it was time to do something else.

"I felt it was time to step away in a full-time capacity," Bird said in a statement released ahead of a news conference. "This has nothing to do with my health or our team. I'm 60 years old and I want to do other things away from basketball."

Larry Bird
GETTY IMAGES

It's the second time in five years he has walked away from Indiana's top front office position. General manager Kevin Pritchard will replace Bird as the Pacers' top decision-maker.

Bird was selected as the NBA's top executive in 2011-12.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TODAY

Hearty Tuna Niçoise Sandwich

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This hearty picnic sandwich goes to the office just as well as it goes to a park.

Ready In 1 hour
Prep Time: 15 minutes
Chill Time: 45 minutes
Serves: 4

Ingredients
- 3 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 Tbsp white wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp dijon mustard
- 2 x 5 oz cans of tuna
- 1/4 English cucumber, sliced
- 1 loaf bread
- 1 or 2 Tbsp black olive tapenade
- 3 hard boiled eggs, sliced
- handful fresh basil

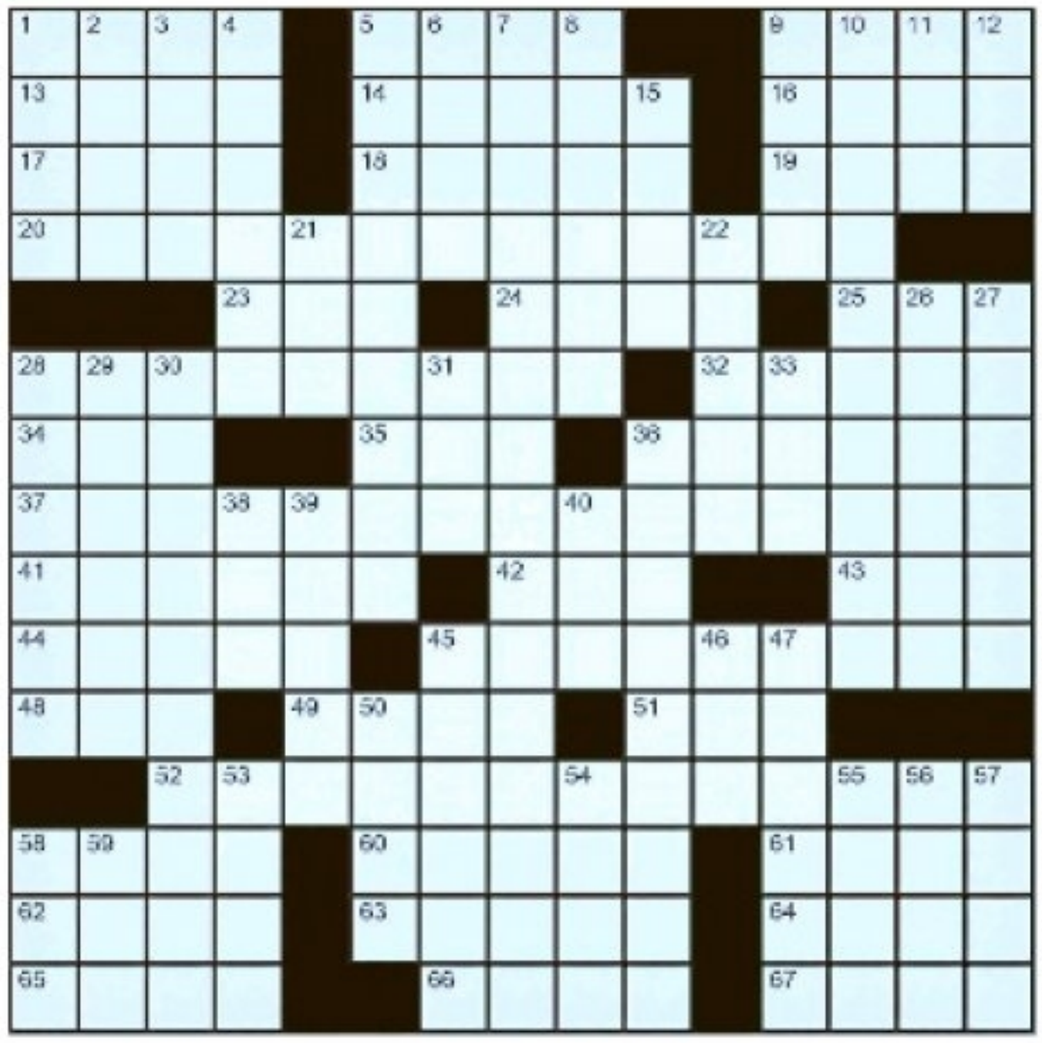
Directions

1. Whisk together oil, vinegar and mustard.
2. Drain tuna and place it in a bowl. Add 2 Tbsp of dressing to tuna and mash with a fork.
3 Toss sliced cucumber in remaining Tbsp of dressing.
4. Cut loaf of bread horizontally and use fingers to pinch out 1 cup of the soft bread inside.
5. Spread a thin layer of tapenade on the bottom of your bread boat, then a layer of basil leaves, a layer of sliced egg, the tuna and then the cucumber. Top with the bread's cap and press down gently. Wrap the whole sandwich in plastic wrap for half an hour or overnight.
6. Cut into slices.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Grand money amts.
5. Barry Manilow's "Could ___ Magic"
9. Glycolic _ (Skin-care ingredient)
13. Botanical angle
14. Ms. Gibbs of "The Jeffersons"
16. Software's test version
17. Nature's icy layer
18. Preamble
19. Ocean swirl
20. Headland on Newfoundland's east coast known for its historic lighthouse built in 1843: 2 wds.
23. Mixed bag [abbr.]
24. Library furniture piece
25. Spinning stat.
28. Historic neighbourhood in Ottawa
32. Free from knots
34. Prefix with 'lateral'
35. Herbal beverage
36. 'Now available on _-_ and DVD'
37. Royal ___ of Canada (Canadian Armed Forces academy in Kingston, Ontario)
41. Gemini's brightest star
42. Mother goddess of Thebes
43. 'Musket' suffix
44. Beneath
45. Tina Turner and Bryan Adams on "It's Only Love"
48. Loaf selection
49. Cow-horned-headdress goddess
51. Speed _.
52. Shipping - Trade - Goods: 2017 marks Montreal's 50th anniversary as one, and it's the only one on the St. Lawrence River: 2 wds.
58. Switchblade
60. Britannica, e.g.
61. Affirm
62. _-de-camp
63. Stiller & _ (Comedy act)
64. The Dalai _
65. Imagine, archaically
66. Glopped-on-a-plate serving
67. Snow-capped sights

DOWN
1. Mr. Anthony
2. Corn lily
3. Droopy
4. Shirt part
5. Tariff on goods coming in from beyond: 2 wds.
6. Mountain lake
7. Hello, Dolly!: 2 wds.
8. Mark Messier's jersey number
9. "Wanna make ___?"
10. Some of the forest's conifers: 2 wds.
11. "Why _ be an honour."
12. 24-hour period
15. 'Friends' in France
21. Exclude
22. Yorick, in Hamlet
26. Posh wristwatch maker
27. "Late Night with Seth _"
28. Kuala _ (Malaysia's largest city)
29. Like those diced bits that go well with garlic in the frying pan
30. Is set to make a ruling: 2 wds.
31. The Who's "Love, Reign _ Me"
33. Void, in Paris
36. Top of a vintage purchase of pop
38. 'Project' suffix
39. Burial shroud city in Italy
40. Showbiz signal
45. Lane and Ladd
46. Target-shooting event, in France
47. Antelope of Africa
50. Tulip 'trunk'
53. Microwave _
54. Singer/songwriter Laura
55. Ring's gemstone shape
56. Big win
57. Poetic contraction
58. Plank cutter
59. "Get galloping!"

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Sidestep arguments with female family members so that you can keep the peace at home, because something will change your routine today. Small appliances might break down.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a restless day for you, because you feel as if nothing is reliable. Change is in the air. Wait to see what's happening before you act.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Money disputes with a friend or a group might take place today. Keep an eye on your money, because you might lose it. You also might lose or break something you own.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Relationships with bosses, parents and VIPs are unpredictable today. It's hard to say what will happen. Do not wake the sleeping dragon. Keep a low profile, if possible.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Steer clear of controversial topics like politics, religion and racial issues today, because an argument could erupt. Expect travel plans to be canceled or changed.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Double-check details regarding shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances today, because something unexpected will affect these areas. You are best prepared by being informed.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Difficulties with a female boss or a parent are likely today, because people feel rebellious. Nobody wants to be told what to do. Unfortunately, that's not always realistic.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Travel plans likely will change today. Ditto for plans related to colleges, universities and technical schools. Allow extra time so that you can cope with this.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Stay in touch with your bank account and any arrangements you have regarding inheritances and shared property today, because something might throw you for a loop. Make sure you know what's happening.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Relationships with partners and close friends are unpredictable today. Patience will be your best ally when dealing with the unexpected.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your job routine will change today — it's almost certain. Equipment failures, computer crashes, staff shortages and other unexpected events will be an obstacle to your production and efficiency.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Parents should be extra vigilant, because this is an accident-prone day for your kids. Sporting events and social occasions will suffer from unexpected changes and delays.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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			2			3	7	
7					6			1
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3	5	2	6	7	9	8	1	4

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